Interview with Angelo: I want my simple life back

Filipino soldiers running out of English in war games

By Julie S. Alipala

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Sunday, August 1, 2004 • 34 pages / vol. 19 / no. 235

Gracia's story stirs row

Did she or didn't she clear military? Footage belies DOJ claim



Place of silence where Presidents find solace

Edsa Shrine artist cries foul over mural restoration



WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

Country to import P1.3B worth of rice to avert shortage

By Philip C. Tubeza

Customs exceeds revenue target

Traces of oil, gas found off Tawi-Tawi

GMA orders probe of 'salvage' cops

Pimentel wants Congress to control Pagcor funds

Reyes opposes cutting LGUs' share

ENTERTAINMENT

'Barretto feud could end with a phone call'



ABS-CBN set to file 'bigger' case against GMA 7 over Angelo video

GMA asks religious leaders to take part in 'values formation'

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

Oil firms to hike prices Monday

By Abigail L. Ho

Refund gun permit fees—Chavez

By Philip C. Tubeza

ABS-CBN set to file 'bigger' case . . .

Barretto feud could end . . .

Distorted

Schilling abductor nabbed

Soldiers hurt in truck crash



SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

Aid poor nations, RP urges APEC



Primary concern

Weakest link

Nene: RP vets may feel brunt of US ire over Iraq pullout



FILIPINO-AMERICANS and members of Migrante-USA, an immigrants' NGO, protest the deportation from the United States of possibly up to 350,000 Filipinos which they said was in retaliation for the Philippine pullout of its troops from Iraq.

The Daily Gospel

Sunday, August 1, 2004



Gracia's story stirs row



Colonel barred media

Saguisag wants answers

The spin masters

Cleared by military court

Abaya stands firm

Pichay, Cerilles convinced

'Credible' than book

Edsa Shrine artist cries foul over mural restoration

90% eaten by termites

'Well qualified'

Map formations

Just painted over

Asks for written report

METRO

Children's choir bags gold in German tilt



Leading his barangay was a dream twice stolen for ex-cop

Salvage victim actor's 'nephew'

MetroBriefs

'Plastics King' sued

'Not guilty'

Help for newsman

Think twice before buying cheap goods, cops warn



The WORLD

US, Israel posts in Uzbekistan bombed



NASA plans to launch a new spacecraft Messenger, shown in this artist's drawing orbiting Mercury, on a mission to the planet closest to the sun on Aug. 2.

UN Council gives Sudan stern warning over Darfur atrocities

Nasa to resume exploration of Mercury

Bush, Kerry kick campaigns into high gear



KERRY with running mate Edwards at a campaign rally in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, July 28.

Kidnappers extend deadline for Iraq hostages

Last New York Mafia don convicted for murders, faces life in prison



MASSINO

15 killed, 120 injured in spectacular explosion of Belgium gas line

Pakistan PM-designate survives car bomb attack



AZIZ



BRIDES, NOT WAITING

NZ to sex workers: Watch out for overuse syndrome

Across the NATION

US warship fined for dumping waste

ROUNDUP

Poll protest dismissed

Burnham Park revival

600 bags of sugar seized

P30-M agri fund

Drug-buster buried

Moratorium defended

Healing nun in Calapan



SWEET TIME

Ex-bar workers protest plan to demolish their Clark stalls

PDI scholarship paves way for changes, electricity for 13-yr-old boy, family

Great adventure

Magat River cleanup set

Laguna town mayor wins top league position

Following rules

Meddling

Cathedral roof work divides Laoag folk



DRILL
Members of rescue teams in Baguio City simulate disaster response in a recent drill in the country's summer capital.

Mayors told not to drag poor in feud

NIA threatens to rescind contract

2 Mindanao solons seek poll postponement

Enough time

Participate in polls

24 tons of white coral sand seized in Lucena

Rich clients

Landscape

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
OPINION



Conscience

Editorial

THE TWO-CHILD policy proposed by Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman is fraught with danger. In particular, it opens up the possibilities of institutionalizing discrimination in the name of economic progress. However, as a starting point for much-needed discussions on population control, his proposal is a welcome development.

The Lagman proposals have sparked contending proposals from other politicians as well as comments from the private and religious sectors. The urgency of a population control program is clear. What should concern us today is defining the parameters within which further discussions should take place.

A paramount parameter is the sacredness of life, as enshrined in the constitutional prohibition against abortion. It is precisely this constitutional injunction to preserve the life of the unborn that should provide the impetus for the other defining parameter to any discussion on population control: information.

Fear and ignorance drive women, in many cases, to resorting to abortions to end unwanted pregnancies. Our country should desire fewer babies, but most of all, no unwanted babies. As a country and society that respects religious faith, we must all agree to respect the strictures of many faiths, while ensuring that no faith unduly imposes its teachings on others.

Referring to the Constitution, which leaves us free to belong, or not belong, to any faith, we are all bound to protect the life of the unborn fetus. However, on things that may prevent conception in the first place, people of varying faiths may disagree. Protestants and non-Catholics in many instances have no objection to various means of preventing conception, while both Catholics and non-Catholics more often than not, at least in the Filipino context, see eye to eye when it comes to protecting a child once conceived. Therefore, if we are to give full expression to the right to religion and the practice of religion, and the equality given to those who have, and do not have, faith, then we must all agree on the primacy of conscience.

Each citizen is armed with a conscience, and it is not within the ambit of the state—and even religion—to interfere with the exercise of that conscience. The state may uphold the law, religions may uphold their teachings, but church and state must bow to the individual conscience of our citizens. Catholic doctrine recognizes that each member of the faithful must answer the call of one's conscience. We ask that this principle be upheld, in the provision of information to the public on population control.

If most, if not all, can agree that we do not want unwanted babies, and that furthermore, it would be better to have fewer babies, or at least, to only have babies who have a greater chance to enjoy their full human rights by having access to more resources, our people need more information.

They need information on the consequences of pregnancy—and of course, its causes. They need information on the true cost of child rearing. They need information on family planning, birth spacing, nutrition and health. If we can all agree that we want no abortions, we must enable citizens to know how abortions can be prevented, and give options to citizens that are compatible with their individual conscience.

To be stuck in a contentious groove, as the debate on family planning has been stuck for decades, is to fail to see the forest for the trees. It is to condemn more babies to being aborted. It is to continue the cycle of ignorance and desperation that leads to unwanted pregnancies, and the murder of the unborn. To fail to widen the options and information open to couples and women, and even men, when it comes to knowing their bodies and reproductive health, is to condemn our country to growing faster than it can feed, clothe, house and educate the citizens of our country.

A cycle of fear and distrust must be broken, if we are to move forward. Our churches must have greater faith in their flocks, our politicians must have greater faith in the ability of the public to make discriminating choices. Our people deserve more information and more access to reproductive health programs compatible with their beliefs. Church and state have been passing the buck, and pointing fingers at each other. Meanwhile, millions are born to poverty, and thousands are murdered before they even see the light of day.

This is too much to have on the conscience of our leaders and our preachers.

English in the Philippines

Separate Opinion

Isagani A. Cruz

WHEN English was the medium of instruction in our schools, practically every Filipino, including those in the barrios, understood and spoke the language. Some of them used what was then called carabao English, but they were able to convey their meaning even to foreigners. The point was that they were understood, albeit with some difficulty, even with their broken grammar and pronunciation.

It is different now with the majority of our people unable to speak English at all. The emphasis is now on the national language and the dialects or the ruling pretension. English has become a really foreign language where it used to be the lingua franca of the Filipino, more widespread than the various native dialects.

The public schools have seen to the quiet transfer of the English language to the Philippines, making the national language the medium of instruction ...

Holding hands

Moments

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

IN ONE of our pilgrimages, we had an elderly couple who were holding each other's hands. It was such an inspiring sight to see them holding on to each other. I ...

The Gospel today (Lk. 12, 13-21) speaks about letting go of our possessions. There are some people who cannot let go of what they have. Their possessions have become their crutches. ...

Aglipay in my crystal ball

REVEILLE



Ramon J. Farolan

The toll of machismo

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Debating population

PUBLIC LIVES



Randy David

Why Australia is hot on De la Cruz case

COMMENTARY

TALK of the TOWN

Editor: Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Can day care centers bridge education gap?



GOVERNMENT leaders around the world recognize the importance of early education in developing their economies. In her State of the Nation Address on July 26, President Macapagal-Arroyo asked Congress "to legislate an extra year of studies not by adding a fifth year of high school but by standardizing what is taught in barangay day care centers."

Five days before, the President announced at a convention of district supervisors that the government would require children to attend kindergarten. "Half of what we've learned in life, we learned when we were six years old," she said. "According to a study, those who didn't go to day care are the ones who drop out of school."

Calculations made by the Department of Education (DepEd) showed that it would need about P12 billion a year for a compulsory kindergarten program. DepEd has already organized kindergarten classes in some fifth and sixth class municipalities, spending about P50 million in 2003.

The President's announcement may spell the end of DepEd's bridge program. It required students, who did not master their elementary English, Math and Science, to go through a one-year program before they could enter first year high school. Because of protests, the bridge program is no longer compulsory.

In asking Congress to pass a law on kindergarten, Ms Arroyo wants to avoid protests similar to those triggered by DepEd's imposition of the bridge program.

To get the support of the public, Malacañang may learn a thing or two from the great debate launched by the French National Ministry of Education last November to allow French citizens to give their views on the school system.

Nearly one million French men and women have taken part in the debate on the future of their school system, according to Label France, the quarterly newsmagazine of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Some 13,000 public meetings were conducted and people were also given the opportunity to join an Internet discussion. The results of the consultation will form the basis of a law that will structure the French education system for the next 15 years.

Children learn fastest during first six years

By Corazon Juliano-Soliman
Secretary, Department of Social Welfare and Development

[illegible]

DSWD's role

[illegible]

Legislation

[illegible]

Bright child

[illegible]

DAY CARE CENTERS IN THE COUNTRY [illegible]

Region	Number	Accredited Centers	Day Care Workers	Accredited Workers	No. of Children Served
CAR	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Caraga	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
I	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
II	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
III	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
IV	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
V	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
VI	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
VII	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
VIII	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
IX	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
X	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
XI	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
XII	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

From day care to kindergarten

[illegible]

Strengthening formative education is better than one more year in high school

By [illegible]
Head, Early Childhood Education Division, Muntinlupa City

[illegible]

Deprived areas

[illegible]

INQUIRER Mindanao

Feeling ‘Gulliver’ on Mt. Hamiguitan



MOUNTAINEERS enjoy watching at Lantawan 3 on Mt. Hamiguitan in San Isidro, Davao Oriental.

By Leonard Paul Palo
San Isidro, Davao Oriental

FRIEDRICH Nietzsche once said, "Whenever I climb, I am followed by a dog called Ego." This could be every mountaineer's motivational credo as every summit or peak that he or she takes to conquer presents a unique and fairly different challenge.

In the town of San Isidro in Davao Oriental, also known as the Frontier Capital of the Philippines, lies the 1,600-foot Mt. Hamiguitan—an enchanting ever land with thick vegetation and some rocky terrain, which is home to the famous pygmy or bonsai forest and the 350-foot twin falls.

On June 14-17, in celebration of San Isidro's 38th founding anniversary and its yearly "Bankhayanan Festival," the local tourism office, in cooperation with the Department of Tourism regional office, the Mountaineering Federation of Southern Mindanao and the Mountaineering Federation of the Philippines Inc. (MFPI), organized the "Sadya-ta sa Hamiguitan," or the journey to Hamiguitan.

The event was participated in by 84 mountaineers. Seeing it as another breathtaking opportunity to explore something new and exciting, I and a few adventurous members of the MFSM, the MFPI and the Edge Outdoor Shop in Davao, embarked on the initial bivouac trip.

Getting there

Our crew and the rest of the participants coming from Davao City reached Barangay Mankilang in San Isidro in a dump truck. An air-conditioned bus normally plies the Davao-Mati route to the village, charging P164 per passenger. From there, a 5-kilometer habal-habal (local motorcycle ride) or a jeepney takes one to the poblacion, which is also referred to by the locals as "Bato-Bato."

A 1:300 van plying the Davao-Bigabay route brings one directly to the poblacion. The land trip takes as long as four hours, depending on the speed of the vehicle.

Before our ascent, the municipal government headed by Mayor Apolinar Ancis Jr., and administrative officer Gaite Castanares welcomed the mountaineers at the San Isidro Training and Convention Center. A choir serenaded the participants, and the officials briefed the participants on what to expect during the climb.

From Mike Nakabiti, our crew, which volunteered to be the lead pack, began our trek to the first campsite at 6 a.m. the following day, crossing rivers and following forest trails.

We took a slight detour after being told of a recent landslide along the way.

Before reaching Camp 1, we stopped at a place called "Lantawan" or view deck, a rocky section of the mountain that is rich in copper and silver deposits. The rocks glittered like gold when the rays of the sun struck them. Pitcher plants grow along the trail.

Wrong turn

When we reached the first checkpoint, called "Pulang Lupa" because of its reddish soil, we logged in with the volunteers manning the post and were told to list the names of climbers who had already passed through. Little did we know that two trails actually lay ahead of us, and we had taken a wrong turn. That cost us a lot of time and energy.

The trail that we took, which was not properly blocked by the technical team who earlier assessed the area, would have taken us to the neighboring town of Governor Generoso, which was way out far from our destination. When we realized that we were lost, we decided to retrace our steps back to the checkpoint.

We reached the camp at noon and after a few minutes rest, we continued our trek to Camp 2, where we were supposed to stay for the night. After nearly two hours of hiking, we arrived at the camp, but then the officials decided to proceed to Camp 3 to see the Pygmy forest.

Again, we pushed on. With wet clothes and muddied boots, we took an even muddier uphill trail. We passed through an area that some mountaineers christened the "Super Sexy" because one would have to hold on to some railings made out of tree branches and roots just like one sees in an action flick.

After almost 10 hours of walking and dodging wayward branches and thorny bushes, we finally reached Camp 3. It was foggy and we scouted our camp site and managed before calling it a night.

Like giants

The next morning, the camp was still shrouded by fog and chill. The famed 600-hectare Pygmy Forest was just a stone's throw away so because photographer Ryan Lim and I decided to set off early. We staked it out so that we could take better pictures when the thick mist would finally disappear.

The air finally cleared and we saw ourselves trekking through pint-sized trees, some of which were only a foot high but with well-developed trunks and branches. The stunted trees were believed to be centuries old and, from a distance, one could be looking at regular trees.

We felt like giants walking through the varieties of the "Almaciga," "Pine Tree" and many other species, including rare orchids.

Just 30 minutes of hiking from the camp lay the 350-foot twin falls. Unfortunately, the cascading waters during our visit were not really that powerful, but it was still a sight to behold.

Aside from the Pygmy Forest and the Twin Falls, Mt. Hamiguitan is the site of the "Tinagong Dagat," (hidden sea), which is a saltwater lake in the middle of the mountains. What's so intriguing about this body of water is that it is the habitat of a number of fish species. How the fish got there, nobody knows, since the lake is surrounded by tall mountains. Many believe that the species were simply a product of evolution.

The thought of seeing the underdeveloped trees really stuck in my head. I felt like Gulliver walking in Lilliput.



TENORIO (r.) and Doug Kramer of Ateneo clamp down on Karl Bono (middle) of Adamson.

Eagles claw Falcons; Tams tame Bulldogs

ATENEO captain Larry Fonacier may be out for the rest of the season, but he became an inspiration for point guard LA Tenorio, whose three-pointer with 4.5 seconds remaining lifted the Eagles past the Adamson Falcons, 58-55, in the 67th UAAP varsity basketball tournament yesterday at the Philippine Arena.

Buhain lauds POC, Philsoc for support

PHILIPPINE Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain yesterday lauded the Philippine Olympic Committee and the Philippine Southeast Asian Games Organizing Committee for helping keep the country's SEA Games' plans on track.

WHAT'S INSIDE



■ Williams pummels Tyson /A20

■ Casas captures Super Golf Tour /A19



Casas wraps up Super Golf Tour, bags ₱500,000



Walkout mars NCFP election



Korea deals RP-Cebuana 5th loss

NBA meet for school children opens

Sanchez, Bancod hurdle rivals, bolster chances

POWERHOUSE AUSTRALIA

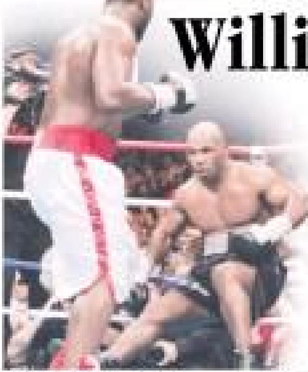
Thorpe can count on teammates in Athens



Eagles . . .

From page A19

Williams pummels Tyson



THE END



WILLIAMS

Misplaced Magahin

SPECTATOR



Al S. Mendoza

Place of silence where Presidents find solace



RP ...

Nodding, smiling

Thrill

Interview with Angelo: I want my simple life back

Why me?

'Pray, Angelo'

Food and water



NEW HAIRCUT: Angelo dela Cruz

No thanks

CLASSIFIEDS
Pages B10 to B15

She gave up her dream to fly and soared to greater heights





FIRST JOB







Oven toaster and ₱300 give rise to a very sweet venture



PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

She gave up . . .

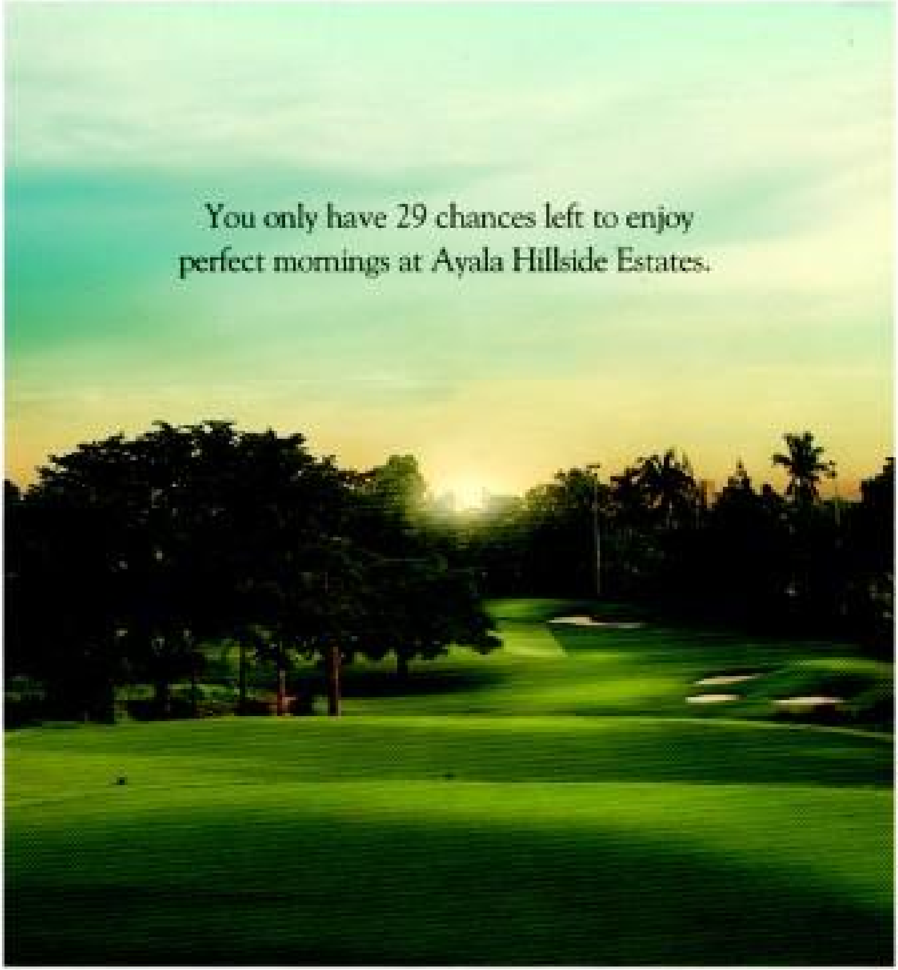
Mom's hobby becomes dollar-earning venture



Oven toaster and ₱300 give rise to a very sweet venture

From page B1

[illegible]





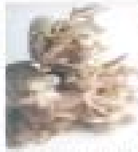
Bank ties up with search engine to extend e-services

Mom's hobby…



Ex-activist hopes mushroom culture would spawn trade





Laboratory

Challenges



Bolt of dazzlers

In its Astrale line, Bulgari shifts from heap and heft to wispy and ethereal

CIRCULAR pendants inspired by heavenly bodies.



STRAPS made of stingray skin

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photo by Jim Gonzalo Pascasio

DRAWING inspiration from heavenly bodies, Bulgari has ditched chunky colored stones for tiny white diamonds set in white and yellow gold.

In a recent two-day launch at the Makati Shangri-La, members of Manila's jeweled set feasted their eyes on the Italian company's latest collection, "Astrale." The event comes in the heels of Bulgari's worldwide launch, which kicked off earlier this year at the Pavlovsk Palace in St. Petersburg.

Astrale is a total departure from last year's Allegra line, which consisted of semiprecious stones combined with pearls and diamonds. Gone now are the chunky and whimsical elements that dominated the Optical and Tondo collections.

In lieu of such eye candies are elegantly drawn pavé diamonds ranging from .8 to one carat, set mostly in concentric loops made of pure gold. Bigger rocks ranging from five to 17 carats provide certain pieces with the all-important culmination point. Owing to dangling elements that follow either a straight or triangular pattern, a subgroup has been dubbed as Firework.

Astrale's stones may not be as big as those found in previous collections, says [illegible] Kangleon, Bulgari's country manager in the Philippines, but the collection has several features that make it worthy to be part of Bulgari's growing list of pricey options.

"Bulgari has always been strong in design and construction," he says. "It's not just a matter of design, but how its jewelers put the pieces together. They always have the wearer's movements and comfort in mind."

Take, for instance, Astrale's circular ring that comes either with or without diamonds. Rather than come in a single piece, the wide circular element on top is attached to the ring with a pair of loops to allow it to "move" with the wearer's finger.

"It would have been easier and cheaper for Bulgari to do it the usual way," Kangleon explains, "but that would have surely hurt the poor wearer's finger."

He also vouches for the way the series of links and necklaces fall neatly around the neck and on the chest. Indeed, despite Bessie Badilla's attempts to [illegible] it up, several of her pendants stayed with their faces up and [illegible] close to her chest.

The former model, together with Cher Lim, [illegible] and Sarah Jane [illegible], was among the senior mannequins who shared the stage with younger colleagues such as [illegible], Isabel [illegible], Valerie de los Reyes, Rachel Soriano, Franco [illegible] and Bobbie [illegible].

Not predictable

By adding several smaller architectural elements with the main pendant, Bulgari's designers added volume and kept the piece from becoming predictable. Such "body," said Kangleon, is also evident in the Firework series.

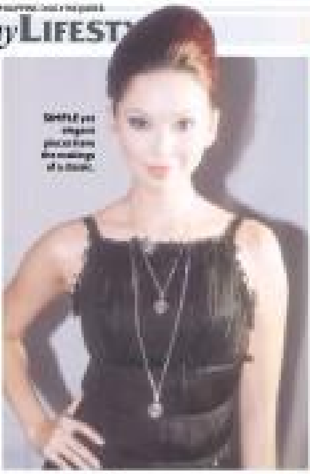
Since each element that makes up, say, a bracelet, is molded and connected to the next element, the piece manages to look more voluminous than it actually is. Surprisingly, the

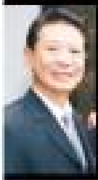
NEXT C2



NECKLACES from the Firework line





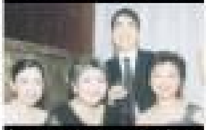



Bolt of dazzlers

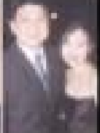
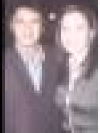






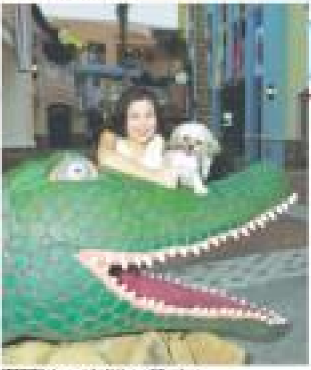





PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Sunday LIFESTYLE



Where Bantay can go malling



Eastwood City is the first pet-friendly mall in the country

THE DAYS when quality time with four-legged friends meant only a stroll within the private village are numbered. Finally, there's a mall that encourages the furry members of the family to dine, shop or simply hang out with their owners—and even get the chance to meet new buddies along the way.

Responsible owners



Where Bantay can go malling

[illegible]





Sunday LIFESTYLE



[illegible]

Where hello really means hello

[illegible]

CUSTOMER service is a tough job, and that's an understatement for work that involves sitting behind a desk and computer all day (or night), taking calls nonstop from unrelenting, irritated people who demand answers no later than right now.

[illegible]

Where hello really means hello



GLOBE Telecom's call-in service is a round-the-clock operation that handles customer concerns and inquiries.

Benefits



GLOBE Telecom's customer service professionals discuss the latest innovations in customer transactions.







Sunday Lifestyle Travel

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text Feedback:
Inquirer life travel/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)



HOW to keep our coastlines clean: That is a major problem.

Brainstorming on keeping beaches safe and clean

By Volt Contreras

CAN the country protect yet still make the most of its much-advertised world-class beaches? Can these scenic places earn tourism dollars while preserving their pristine conditions? Can the famous Boracay Island, for example, be spared from overcrowding without sacrificing economic opportunities?

Although the search for answers can be, well, as tough as cleaning up Manila Bay, a recent multisectoral forum sponsored by the World Bank sought fresh ideas.

Held most fittingly in Boracay, Aklan, the first international workshop on the Beach EcoWatch Program gathered about a hundred marine life experts, green advocates, resort owners, government regulators and local officials, financing executives, and the media.

Proposals ranged from multimillion-peso sewage treatment plants to publicity gimmicks like then Health Secretary Juan Flavier's anti-smoking "Yosi Kadiri" campaign.

Or may be newspapers can report on coastline water quality just as they give daily weather reports.

Supported by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Beach

BRAINSTORMING C8



Brainstorming on keeping beaches safe and clean

First step

Risk of bacterial growth

Experts got together for the World Bank-sponsored first international workshop on the Beach EcoWatch Program to find ways to keep coastal areas healthy

Nationwide testing

